



Cosponsor H.R. 6323 - the Survivor Benefits Fairness Act

*Co-Lead: Rep. Conor Lamb**

Background

Under current law, if a deceased veteran's spouse is receiving benefit checks and dies during the month they received a check, the VA is permitted to request the month's payment back.

I learned about this unfortunate situation when I was contacted by the family of a woman who had been receiving monthly benefits from the VA due to her husband's military service. This woman unfortunately died 5 hours before the end of the month. As a result, the VA is now demanding that her family return her benefits for the whole month.

I believe families of deceased benefit recipients should not be required to pay back benefits that were already used for necessary living expenses. That is why I introduced the **Survivor Benefits Fairness Act**. This is the right thing to do for our veterans who honorably served our country. Their grieving families should not be burned with unnecessary debt to repay benefits.

What does this bill do?

My bill ensures the VA cannot demand the families of beneficiaries pay back their monthly benefits in the event of a surviving spouse's death.

Please contact Charlotte Davis (charlotte.davis@mail.house.gov) in Rep. Bryan Steil's office if you would like to cosponsor the Survivor Benefits Fairness Act.